



COUNTY BOROUGH OF DUDLEY.

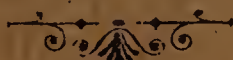
---

# ANNUAL REPORT

on the work of the

## PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, 1942

---

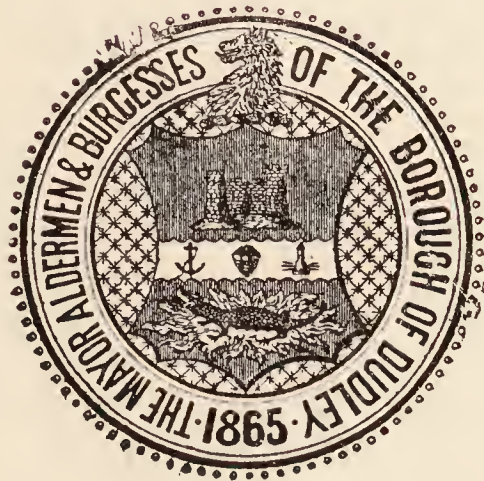


G. D. WIGHT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Acting Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer.

SIDNEY SKITT, F.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.  
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.







COUNTY BOROUGH OF DUDLEY.

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

on the work of the

## PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, 1942


---



G. D. WIGHT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Acting Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer.

SIDNEY SKITT, F.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.  
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29171076>

Health Department,  
“ The Firs,”  
Dudley.  
June, 1943.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the County Borough of Dudley.

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health  
of the Borough for the year 1942.

The Report has again been curtailed as much as possible,  
only the more important information being given.

An examination of the vital statistics shows some satisfactory  
features. The birth rate is the highest recorded for 10 years, the  
infantile mortality rate is the second lowest ever recorded, the  
maternal mortality rate is low and is less than the rate for England  
and Wales. The general death rate is below the national rate.

The incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis remains high but  
fewer deaths were recorded.

On the whole it can be said that there has been no deteriora-  
tion in the health of the Borough.

My thanks are due to Members of the Council, colleagues and  
staff for loyal help and support.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G. D. WIGHT,  
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Birth Rate.

The Registrar-General gives the figure of 1,123 for the registered live births adjusted for inward and outward transfers. Of this number 588 were males and 535 females.

The live-birth rate is therefore 18.89 per 1,000 of the population, the corresponding figure for 1941 being 17.88. The birth rate is the highest recorded in Dudley since 1932. The rate for England and Wales was 15.8.

Of the total live births, 30 were illegitimate, comprising 16 males and 14 females.

Stillbirths numbered 35, giving a stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) of 30.2. In 1941 the figure was 35.5.

### Infant Mortality Rate.

Deaths of infants under 1 year numbered 66, giving an infantile mortality rate of 58.8 per 1,000 live births. This is the second lowest rate ever recorded in Dudley.

The following table shows the infantile mortality rates for the past 10 years.

Year.		Infant Mortality Rate.		
1933	...	...	...	84.73
1934	...	...	...	81.23
1935	...	...	...	66.05
1936	...	...	...	71.11
1937	...	...	...	79.58
1938	...	...	...	46.30
1939	...	...	...	70.44
1940	...	...	...	72.33
1941	...	...	...	67.00
1942	...	...	...	58.8

The rate for England and Wales was 49, and that for the County Boroughs and large towns 59.

### Maternal Mortality.

There were 2 maternal deaths during the year, giving a rate of 1.7 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. The rate for England and Wales was 2.01. Both of these deaths occurred outside the Borough.

### General Death Rate.

The death rate of the Borough for the year 1942 was 11.3 per 1,000 of the population.

The rate for England and Wales was 11.6.

The following table shows the causes of death during 1942 :—

Cause of Death.					M.	F.	Ttl.
1.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	1	2	3
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	1	1
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	3	3
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	3	1	4
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	26	18	44
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	4	4	8
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	5	2	7
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	2	2
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infective Encephalitis	...	...	...	—	1	1
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oeso- phagus (m)	...	...	...	2	5	7
				Uterus (f)			
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	8	15	23
15.	Cancer of the Breast	...	...	...	—	6	6
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	27	29	56
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	2	2
18.	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	39	30	69
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	61	69	130
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	...	10	9	19
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	37	17	54
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	30	16	46
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	7	2	9
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	6	1	7
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	6	4	10
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	2	—	2
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	8	7	15
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	5	19	24
29.	Puerperal and Post-abortion. Sepsis.	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	—	2	2
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	8	8	16
32.	Congenital Malformation, Birth In- juries, Infant Diseases	...	...	...	7	4	11
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	3	2	5
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	11	3	14
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	14	4	18
36.	All other Causes	...	...	...	26	22	48
Totals					359	307	666



The following table shows the ten chief causes of death in the Borough:—

Cause of Death.					M.	F.	Ttl.
1.	Heart Diseases	...	...	...	61	69	130
2.	Cancer	...	...	...	40	52	92
3.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...			39	30	69
4.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	37	17	54
5.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	30	16	46
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...			26	18	44
7.	Premature Births	...			15	12	27
	Congenital Malformation	...	...				
	Birth Injury	...	...				
8.	Nephritis	...	...	...	5	19	24
9.	Other diseases of circulatory system				10	9	19
10.	Violence other than suicide	...	...		14	4	18

The principal cause of death was again heart disease, although the number of deaths attributed to this disease was substantially less than last year. Cancer again takes second place, the numbers being slightly up on the previous year. There was a substantial decrease in deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis.

While the number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis was practically the same as last year, deaths showed a 15 per cent. reduction.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### Midwifery Service.

This service functioned satisfactorily during the year, the twelve Municipal Midwives attending 970 confinements. In addition, 9 confinements were carried out in the Borough by outside midwives. Medical aid was sought in 420 cases.

### Pre-natal Clinics.

661 new patients attended the clinics during the year, making in all a total of 2,569 attendances.

### Post-natal Clinics.

16 patients attended and made 25 attendances.

### Consultative Pre-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

The Borough's Obstetrical Consultant continued his monthly clinic at "The Firs," at which special cases referred by the Clinic Medical Officers and general practitioners were seen. During the year 71 pre-natal, 12 post-natal and 11 gynaecological cases were seen.



### **Maternity Home Accommodation.**

During the year 40 cases were confined in the Rosemary Ednam Home, occupying the four beds reserved by the Staffordshire County Council for cases recommended by the Dudley Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. An additional 43 Dudley patients were confined in the Home under private arrangements. The demand for Maternity Home accommodation was very great and with the limited number of beds available to us it was quite impossible to meet the demands. At the time of writing, the Staffordshire County Council have promised to make available ten beds for Dudley cases in huttred accommodation at the Sedgley Emergency Hospital. This should go a considerable way towards improving the situation and will also lessen the amount of work to be done by the Municipal Midwives.

9 cases were confined in the New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, under arrangements made by the Public Assistance Committee.

The same arrangements for the admission of abnormal obstetric cases continued as in the previous year, a total of 33 cases being admitted to hospital.

### **Distribution of Clothing Coupons to Expectant Mothers.**

During the year the distribution of clothing coupons from the Welfare Clinics was continued and the number of coupons was increased from 50 to 60 for each mother.

### **Vitamin Supplements for Mothers and Children.**

The Government Scheme for supplying orange juice and cod liver oil from the Welfare Clinics was extended during the year to cover expectant mothers and all holders of the child's ration book.

### **War-time Day Nurseries.**

On the 12th August, 1942, the Council opened its first War-time Day Nursery for children under 5 years whose mothers were engaged upon work of national importance.

The Nursery is situated in premises at 2a Dixons Green, a detached two-storey house having ample ground for playing space. All food is prepared on the premises and there is accommodation for 40 children.

In addition to the Matron and nursing staff, a superintendent teacher has been appointed to supervise the education and play activity of the children. The effect on the mental and physical welfare of the children will be watched with interest.

At the time of writing, two further day nurseries have been opened, one in Limes Road, Priory Estate, and the other in Netherton Park. These have been set up in Maycrete huts supplied by the Ministry of Health and these have proved very suitable for the purpose. Each nursery has accommodation for 40 children.

### **Child Welfare Clinics.**

Total attendances :

	1941	1942
Children under 1 year ... ..	14,728	19,997
Children between 1 and 5 years ...	3,049	3,706
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,777	23,703

These figures show that there was a substantial increase in the attendances at the Welfare Clinics.

### **Health Visitors' Report.**

The following table shows the work performed by the Health Visitors during 1942:—

Visits to children under one year :

(a) First visits ... ..	894
(b) Total visits ... ..	4,085
Visits to children between 1 and 5 years ...	10,642
Pre-natal visits ... ..	301
Still-birth investigations ... ..	25
Infant death visits ... ..	64
Ophthalmia neonatorum visits ... ..	3
Miscellaneous visits ... ..	1,992

### **Orthopaedic Clinics.**

267 attendances were made for orthopaedic treatment and 1,205 for massage. At the Ultra-violet Ray Clinics the children made 932 attendances.

### **Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.**

Children under 5 made 55 attendances, and 25 operations were performed.

### Dental Clinics.

The following table gives the treatment figures for 1942 for mothers and children:—

	Dudley	Priory	N'ton	Holly Hall	T'tl.
Numbers of mothers attending ...	158	65	26	—	249
Subsequent attendance by mothers	64	20	12	—	96
Number of pre-natal attendances	22	8	9	—	39
Subsequent pre-natal attendances	7	—	1	—	8
Number of pre-school children attending ... ..	67	18	18	—	103
Subsequent attendances by pre-school children. ... ..	9	2	8	—	19
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total attendances ...	327	113	74	—	514
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Permanent fillings ... ..	23	4	—	—	27
Temporary fillings ... ..	—	3	—	—	3
Permanent extractions ... ..	415	161	56	—	632
Temporary extractions ... ..	74	18	29	—	121
Nitrous oxide anaesthesia ...	272	92	58	—	422
Other operations, permanent ...	31	9	16	—	56
Other operations, temporary ...	11	6	—	—	17

### Scabies.

The number of cases of this disease seems still to be on the increase in spite of the great amount of work which was carried out during the year in following up and treating contacts.

A total of 1,069 persons of all ages received treatment at the welfare clinics and the sanitary depot, but a number of these were probably cases of relapse or re-infection.

### Care of Mental Defectives.

The following table gives the annual figures furnished to the Board of Control:—

A.—Number of Mental Defectives ascertained to be “subject to be dealt with”:—

1.—Under “Order”:	M.	F.	Ttl.
(a) (1) In Institutions (excl. case on licence):—			
Under 16 years of age ..	1	—	1
Aged 16 years and over ...	25	29	54
(2) On licence from Institutions:—			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over ...	1	—	1
(b) (1) Under Guardianship (excl. cases on licence):—			
Under 16 years of age ...	1	2	3
Aged 16 years and over ...	—	4	4



	M.	F.	Ttl.
(2) On Licence from Guardianship :—			
Under 16 years of age ...	--	—	—
Aged 16 years and over ...	—	—	—
2.—In “ places of safety ” :—			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over ...	—	—	—
3.—Under Statutory Supervision ...	26	23	49
Of whom, awaiting removal to an Institution ...	—	3	3
4.—Action not yet taken under any one of the above headings ...	16	21	37
B.—Number of mental defectives not at present “ subject to be dealt with,” but for whom the Local Authority may subsequently become liable :—			
1.—In Institutions or under Guardianship —dealt with Under Sec. 3 ...		Nil.	
2.—Reported to the Local Authority from any reliable source and recognised by them as mentally defective, but as to whom no action under the Mental Deficiency Acts has been taken :—			
(a) Children between the ages of 14 and 16 years ...	5	4	9
Of whom, number if any, under Voluntary Supervision ...	—	—	—
(b) All other cases ...	8	13	21
Of whom, number if any, under Voluntary Supervision ...	8	13	21
Number of above Cases on the registers of Occupation and Industrial Centres ...	8	11	19
2.—Cases notified by Local Education Authorities (Section 2 (2) during the year 1942 :—			
Method of disposal :—			
Sent to Institutions (by Order)	—	—	—
Placed under Guardianship (by Order) ...	—	—	—
Placed under Statutory Supervision ...	1	1	2
Placed in “ places of safety ” ...	—	—	—
Died or removed from area ...	—	—	—
Action not yet taken—			
(a) In receipt of Poor Relief ...	—	—	—
(b) Others ...	—	—	—
Total ...	1	1	2

3.—Of the total number of mental defectives known to the Local Authority :—

(a) Number who have given birth to children during 1942 :—

(1) After marriage ... Nil.

(2) While unmarried ... Nil.

Males. Females.

(b) Number who have married during 1942 Nil. Nil.

The Occupation Centre for ineducable mental defectives continued to occupy premises in the Infants' Department of the Wolverhampton Street Schools.

### Blind.

Registrations at the end of 1942 :—

	M.	F.	Ttl.
Children at School . . . . .	3	1	4
Home Workers . . . . .	—	1	1
Workshop Employees . . . . .	5	3	8
Mental and other Cases in Institution	6	4	10
Employed elsewhere . . . . .	3	2	5
Unemployables . . . . .	33	41	74
	—	—	—
	50	52	102
	—	—	—

### Venereal Diseases.

The following is a summary of the work carried out in the Venereal Diseases Clinic during 1942.

The number of new patients was 215, these making 4,293 attendances. 548 serological tests were performed at the County Bacteriological Laboratory, Stafford, and 324 bacteriological examinations were made at the Clinic.

The number of injections given for the treatment of syphilis was 2,121.

135 patients were discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure. 29 defaulted before completion of treatment and 9 after completion of treatment but before final test of cure. 64 cases were transferred to other centres.

The figures, though small, show an increase in the incidence of syphilis, which is in accordance with the experience of the country as a whole.

War conditions and a lowered standard of morals appear to be responsible for the increase in venereal diseases in this war as in the last. The Government are taking active steps, by means of a vigorous press and film campaign, to give the public accurate information as to the nature of these diseases, how they are spread and the importance of securing early treatment, and Local Authorities are being urged to do all they can towards the same end.

For the first time, power has been given to Medical Officers of Health under Regulation 33B made under the Defence Regulations, to secure compulsory examination and give any necessary treatment to certain persons who are believed to be spreading venereal disease.

### Infectious Diseases.

The following table gives the notifications of the principal diseases over the past five years:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Scarlet Fever ... ..	48	104	78	38	76
Diphtheria ... ..	104	54	70	92	41
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	9	9	6	7	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	11	8	5	4	4
Pneumonia ... ..	114	56	74	72	75
Erysipelas ... ..	24	16	9	7	11
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	1	—	—
Enteric ... ..	—	2	3	2	1
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	3	—	1
Polio-encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	2	8	8	3
Whooping Cough ... ..	Not	4	158	127	139
Measles ... ..	notifiable	2	88	626	217

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

A total of 1,413 children were completely immunised against diphtheria during the year. Of these, 931 were under 5 years of age and 482 over 5 years.

There were in all 4 deaths from Diphtheria, which compares very favourably with the previous year's total of 20. None of the 4 children who died had been immunised against Diphtheria.

### Accommodation for Cases of Infectious Diseases.

The arrangements for the admission of cases of infectious disease to the hospitals of the West Midlands Joint Hospital Board worked well during the year and no difficulty was experienced in gaining admission for Dudley cases.



**Tuberculosis.**

The total number of notifications received during the year was 103, of which 83 were pulmonary.

The number of cases on the register at the end of the year 1942 was 511.

An increase in the Tuberculosis rate has been recorded throughout the whole country since the outbreak of war, and has been a matter for national concern. While prevention is better than cure, the conditions brought about by the war have made this more difficult of attainment. Towards the end of the year the Ministry of Health outlined proposals for dealing with the problem. These were based on three fundamental necessities. Firstly, detection of the disease in its earliest, and thus most curable stage. This will be achieved by the setting up of mass radiography units which will ensure the rapid review of large numbers of persons and enable any suspected case to be picked out. Secondly, the provision of more beds in sanatoria for the treatment of the disease. Thirdly, the provision of financial grants to gainfully occupied persons to free them from anxiety during such time as they are undergoing treatment.

It is hoped to give effect to these proposals as early as possible in 1943.



**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTING SCHOOL MEDICAL  
OFFICER.**

Health Department,  
"The Firs,"

Dudley,

May, 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
School Medical Service Sub-Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service for the year 1942. The Report has again been curtailed, only the salient features being given.

It was not found possible to carry out as many medical inspections in the schools as in the previous year, but the work of the school nurses remained undiminished.

There was, unfortunately, little or no diminution in the incidence of lousiness, scabies and impetigo, which together take up a great deal of the time of the School Medical Staff.

The general nutrition of the school children continues to be satisfactory. A notable step was the introduction of the scheme for the supply of meals in school.

I am glad to be able to record a very substantial reduction in the incidence of diphtheria among the school children.

I have pleasure in acknowledging the help and co-operation of the members of this committee, the Director of Education and the School Medical Staff.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G. D. WIGHT,

Acting School Medical Officer.



### Medical Inspection.

The average number of children on the registers of the elementary schools during the year was 8,891 and the average attendance was 7,615.

The number of children inspected in the three age groups is given below, the figures for last year being given alongside for comparison. It was not found possible to carry out as many inspections as in the previous year, but priority was given to school entrants.

	1941.	1942.
Entrants ... ..	1269	948
Second Age Group ...	994	337
Third Age Group ...	1010	568
	—	—
	3273	1853
	—	—

The Board of Education in Circular 1604 recommended that the medical inspection of the intermediate age group of children be discontinued and that the medical examination of "leavers" should take place in the last year of school life. This entails more work for the school nursing staff, who have to pass in review a greater number of children and refer those in need of medical treatment to the School Medical Officer. The postponement of the medical examination of "leavers," however, is an advantage, as a more up-to-date medical report can be given as to the children's fitness for industrial or other employment.

The number of special inspections and re-inspections was 2,203.

The number of defects discovered at routine inspection was 893, of which 382 required treatment and 511 observation only.

### Findings at Medical Inspections.

At routine inspections 353 individual children were found to require treatment (excluding defects of nutrition, uncleanliness and dental defects), giving a percentage of 19% of those inspected. The percentage last year was 12.8%.

### Nutrition.

The figures obtained from an assessment of the nutrition of the children at routine inspections gave no grounds for believing that there was any deterioration in nutrition. A table giving the results found will be found at the end of this report.

### **Lousiness.**

The number of inspections carried out in the schools was 75,578, and 934 individual children were found to be verminous. This number is rather less than the previous year's total, but the work entailed in dealing with this problem is still a heavy burden on the nursing staff. It was found possible, however, to deal satisfactorily with the problem without resorting to statutory cleansing under the Education Act, or to other legal proceedings. A great part of the work in connection with uncleanliness is now carried out by the auxiliary nurses, thus releasing the school nurses for more important work.

### **Skin Diseases.**

The volume of work entailed in treating skin diseases, principally scabies and impetigo, remained undiminished in 1942.

755 cases of scabies and 763 cases of impetigo were treated at the clinics. Valuable help was again given by assistant nurses and female civil defence workers in tackling the problem of scabies and they were able in great measure to relieve the burden on the school nurses.

Extended trial of benzyl benzoate emulsion has confirmed its early promise as an efficient remedy for scabies and the majority of cases was treated with this preparation.

### **Minor Ailments.**

The total number of defects treated at minor ailment clinics was 4,722. This figure is substantially more than last year's total, and once again skin diseases accounted for a large number of the defects.

### **Diseases of the Eye.**

Routine inspections brought to light 113 children suffering from defective vision, and of this total 28 were cases of squint.

294 children were refracted at the ophthalmic clinic and glasses were prescribed in 194 cases.

Treatment for other defects and diseases of the eye was carried out in 24 cases.

### **Diseases of Ear, Nose and Throat.**

The number of children discovered at routine and special inspections to have defects of the ear, nose and throat was 414.

297 children were referred for operative treatment and 540 received other forms of treatment.

### **Dental Defects.**

A total of 7,892 routine inspections and 1,641 special inspections was made by the School Dental Officers during the year, and 4,824 children were found to require treatment. The number of children actually treated was 3,897, and these made 5,281 attendances.

During the year the Board of Education recommended that the Holly Hall Dental Clinic be closed, as the amount of work carried out there in very unsuitable premises did not justify its continuance. Arrangements were made to treat the Holly Hall children at "The Firs."

### **Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.**

At routine inspections 11 orthopaedic defects were discovered which required treatment and 52 observation only. The total number of attendances at the orthopaedic clinic was 143.

2,024 attendances were made for massage and electrical treatment.

### **Ultra-Violet Light Clinic.**

The total attendance by school children was 970.

### **Infectious Diseases.**

There were 26 cases of Diphtheria in school children with 1 death, and 56 cases of Scarlet Fever with no deaths. It is satisfactory to note the considerable reduction in the number of cases of Diphtheria compared with last year's total of 46.

### **Tuberculosis.**

The number of new cases notified in school children was 7, and of these, 3 were pulmonary. The total number of school children now on the register is 48. There was 1 death from pulmonary tuberculosis.

### **Immunisation Against Diphtheria.**

During the year 482 school children completed immunisation against diphtheria, the prophylactics used being A.P.T. and T.A.F. 1,197 children had, by the end of the year, received one dose of prophylactic, but had not completed the course.

### **Provision of School Meals and Milk.**

As in previous years, free meals were supplied to children recommended by the School Medical Officer and whose parents' income fell within the scale approved by the Education Committee. The scheme for supplying cooked meals in school at low cost was also instituted during the year and an average of 960 children received such meals. This scheme represents an advance in preventive medicine of the first magnitude and is calculated to have a far-reaching effect on the nutrition and well-being of the children. It is hoped that the measure will be greatly extended in the future.



Arrangements were continued as in previous years for the supply of milk free or at cost price, and an average of 5,494 children took advantage of the scheme.

### **Mentally Defective Children.**

The total number of children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1942, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority, under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928, was 3, all being males.

## **STATISTICAL TABLES, 1942.**

**Table I.**

Medical Inspections of Children attending Public Elementary Schools.

### **A. Routine Medical Inspections.**

(1) Number of inspections in the prescribed groups:

Entrants	...	...	...	948
Second Age Group	...	...	...	337
Third Age Group	...	...	...	568
				—
Total	...	...	...	1853
				—

(2) Number of other routine inspections—Nil.

### **B. Other Inspections.**

Number of special inspections and re-inspections: 2,203.

**Table II.**

Classification of the nutrition of children inspected during the year in the routine age groups:—

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1853	156	8.4	1540	83.1	156	8.4	1	.05

**Table III.****Group I. Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness).**

Total number of defects treated or under treatment  
during the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 4722

**Group II. Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint.**

Under the  
Authority's Scheme

Errors of refraction (including squint) ... 294  
Other defects or disease of the eyes (exclud-  
ing those recorded in Group I) ... 4

Total ... 298

Number of children for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed ... 194

(b) Obtained ... 192

**Group III. Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.**

Received operative treatment ... 297

Received other forms of treatment ... 540

Total number treated ... 837

**Table IV.****Dental Inspection and Treatment.****(1) Number of Children Inspected by Dentist.****(a) Routine Age Groups :**

AGE	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	TOTAL
No.	865	880	806	855	872	861	856	895	768	234	7892

(b) Specials ... 1641

(c) Total (routine and  
special) ... 9533

(2) No. found to re-  
quire treatment ... 4824

(3) No. actually  
treated 3897

(4) Attendances made  
by children for  
treatment ... 5281

(5) Half-days devoted to :  
Inspection ... 33  
Treatment ... 694

Total ... 727

(6) Fillings :

Permanent Teeth ... 2192

Temporary Teeth ... 146

Total ... 2338

(7) Extractions :

Permanent Teeth ... 1085

Temporary Teeth ... 3077

Total ... 4162

(8) Administrations of  
general anaesthetics 3040

(9) Other operations :  
Permanent Teeth ... 1082  
Temporary Teeth ... 425

Total ... 1507

Table V.

**Verminous Conditions.**

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	33
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	... 75,578
(3) Number of individual children found unclean	... 938
(4) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	... —
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	... .. —
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws	... .. —

Table VI.

**Blind and Deaf Children.**

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are **not** at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs. The return should relate to all such children, including evacuees resident in the Authority's area :—

	1	2	3
	At a Public Elementary School	At an Institu- tion other than a Special School	At no School or Institution
Blind Children    ...    ..	—	—	—
Deaf Children     ...    ...	—	—	—



## SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Table I.

## A—Routine Medical Inspection.

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	17
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	...	78
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	131
Total	...	...	...	...	...	226

## B—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	—
Number of re-inspections	...	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	...	3

Table II.

DEFECTS OR DISEASE	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS	
	No. for Treatment	No. for Observation
Skin Disease	1	—
Eye Disease	4	1
Nose and Throat	5	11
Deformities	3	4
Other Defects	—	14
Total	13	30

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING  
SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1942.**

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee,  
the County Borough of Dudley.

Mr. Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Taylor and Gentlemen,

In presenting my fourteenth Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough, brevity, with due regard for essential records, and the focussing of attention on the really important war time items, again forms the basis of the report.

The respective visits of control of registered and other premises, of necessity continued very much lower than pre-war, as did also the taking of samples of milk and other foods taken for analysis as to adulteration and examination as to cleanliness and disease. (For the full effect of reduction in these services comparison should be made with the 1939 report). The inspection of "Other Foods," that is, as distinct from Meat, increased by reason of frequent requests from food dealers for the inspection of tinned and other foods suspected of unsoundness.

The public cleansing service was maintained on its minimum war time standard. Tonnage collected was less by 4,000 tons than for 1941. The gross cost of the service was less, but the cost per ton of collection and disposal was more, mainly because of the reduced tonnage. The net cost per premises cleansed was reduced by 1s. 2d. per premises.

Salvage yielded 1,991 tons with an income of £8,304, and gross expenditure was £7,107, tonnage, income and expenditure being slightly above the figure for 1941.

Housing action was principally confined to the demolition of houses rendered void as a result of pre-war Slum Clearance action. Evidence is available that overcrowding is considerably on the increase due largely to service men's marriages and the subsequent living with parents, thereby increases of families in houses.

The reduction in staff reported in 1941 continued in 1942 and still continues at the time of writing this report—June, 1943. Full report on the adverse effect of these staff disruptions was made to the Health and A.R.P. Committees. (None of the present clerical staff were in the Department before the War). All the male members of the clerical staff (6) and one District Sanitary Inspector are in the Forces. Four senior female clerks, including three replacements, will have left the Department, three under the direction of the Man-Power Board, at the time this report is published.

In the meantime the existing staff is carrying on to the best of its ability, and my thanks are again due to all workmen and members of the staff who are so loyally pulling their weight under very difficult conditions.

### (A)—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

#### Numerical Summary for 1942.

##### Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

##### Record of Inspection and Results.

Inspection made with respect to :	No. of Insp.	Nuisances or defects reported	Re-visits made re abatement	Nuisances or defects remedied
Houses under P.H.A. ...	281	555	298	223
Drainage work ...	41	21	60	—
Closets ...	157	237	186	110
Ashplaces ...	23	26	7	—
Yards, Courts, etc. ...	6	1	12	—
Overcrowding ...	105	*	3	*
Miscellaneous ...	31	—	2	—

\* See report on Overcrowding under Section (C).

##### Other Visits.

Public Cleansing Services ...	...	...	...	1
Infectious Disease ...	...	...	...	97
Interviews with Owners and Traders (District Inspectors only) ...	...	...	...	333

##### Notices Served.

	Informal	Statutory	Total
Notices served ...	247	41	288
Notices complied with ...	69	7	76
Choked drains cleansed by Department's drain cleanser			182
Choked water closets cleansed by Department's drain cleanser ...			42

##### Infectious Disease.

Number of cases investigated and necessary action taken	97
Number of disinfections carried out ...	907
Number of Library Books disinfected ...	48



**Fish Frying Premises.**

Number of Fish Frying Premises on the Register ...	...	69
--	-----	----

No applications have been received for the establishment of fish frying premises during the year. Existing premises were kept under observation.

**Rats and Mice Destruction Act.**

Premises receiving attention ...	...	...	...	...	75
Number of visits and re-visits made ...	...	...	...	...	383
Number of baits laid ...	...	...	...	...	9720
Number of baits taken ...	...	...	...	...	7635
Number of rats actually caught ...	...	...	...	...	194
Number of premises where attention has been terminated after satisfactory service ...	...	...	...	...	41

<b>Court Proceedings</b> ...	...	...	...	...	1
------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

**Disinfestation.**

Number of families whose furniture was fumigated prior to removal into a Council House ...	...	...	...	9
Number of Council Houses found to be infested ...	...	...	11	
Number of Council Houses disinfested ...	...	...	16	
Number of other Houses found to be infested ...	...	...	6	
Number of other Houses disinfested ...	...	...	6	

**Factories and Workshops.**

Number of Factories with mechanical power inspected ...	...	11
Number of Factories without mechanical power inspected	...	2
Number of defects remedied ...	...	—

**Licensed Premises.**

Number of Hotels, Public Houses, etc., visited ...	...	3
Number of Urinals reconstructed or improved ...	...	Nil
Additional W.C.'s provided ...	...	1

**Pharmacy and Poisons Act.**

Number of applications dealt with and premises visited ...	...	1
--	-----	---

**Shops Act, 1934.**

Shops inspected and recorded ...	...	Nil
Notices served requiring work to be done ...	...	Nil
Notices complied with ...	...	Nil

**(B)—PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

(For the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1942).

**House Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

Number of Houses and other premises to which collection service was given ... ..	15494
Number of ashbins cleansed per week ... ..	7975
Total refuse collected in tons excluding night soil ...	12527
Gross cost of house and trade refuse collection and disposal service ... ..	£12332
Gross income excluding salvage ... ..	£77
Net expenditure ... ..	£12255
Total net cost per premises cleansed ... ..	15/10
Total cost per ton—collection ... ..	15/7
Total cost per ton—in the control of tips ... ..	4/-

**Street Cleansing.**

Mileage of Streets cleansed :—

At least once daily ... ..	8.07
Three times weekly ... ..	8.57
Twice weekly ... ..	15.67
Once weekly ... ..	39.86
Total mileage cleansed ... ..	72.17
Gross cost (includes purchase Lewis Sweeper £1,000) ...	£6,059
Gross cost per 10,000 square yards cleansed ... ..	14/11
Gross cost per 1,000 of population ... ..	£101

**SALVAGE REPORT.**

YEARS ENDING 31st MARCH, 1942 and 1943.

MATERIALS	MATEERIAL SOLD				MATERIAL IN STOCK				Total Weight Collected (Tons)		EXPENDITURE £		
	Weight (Tons)		Value £		Weight (Tons)		Value £						
	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943		1942	1943
Paper ... ..	562	571	2576	3733½	15	6	60	44	574	562	Wages ...	3751	4309
Rags ... ..	48	67	264	679½	2	—	10	—	47	65	Transport	449	836
Metals ... ..	281	313	564	746½	33	130	60	227	304	410	Bonus ...	526	637
Glass ... ..	84	179	283	761	20	22	80	88	102	181	Materials	295	1088*
Bones etc. ...	12	15	41	58½	—	—	—	—	12	15	Other L.A.'s	441	237
Kitchen Waste	924	736	2662	2325	5	—	15	—	929	758			
TOTAL ...	1911	1908	6390	8304	75	158	225	359	1968	1991		5462	7107

\* Includes £595 for new Salvage Shed and Baling Press.

**(C)—HOUSING.****Slum Clearance.**

Houses demolished during the year	...	...	...	66
Houses demolished from 1930 up to 31/12/42	...	...	...	1448

**Individually Unfit Houses.**

Houses demolished during the year	...	...	...	21
Houses closed under Closing Orders during the year	...	...	...	Nil
Total houses demolished from 1930 to 31/12/42	...	...	...	901
Total houses closed from 1930 to 31/12/42	...	...	...	64
Total houses made fit from 1930 to 31/12/42	...	...	...	580
Total houses approved for demolition but not yet demolished	...	...	...	718

**Overcrowding.**

Number of cases abated during the year	...	...	...	7
Number of new cases reported during the year	...	...	...	17
Total cases remaining unabated at 31/12/42	...	...	...	206
Number of cases abated from June, 1936, to 31st December, 1942	...	...	...	1111

**Rehousing.**

Number of families rehoused in Council houses during the year through the Department	...	...	...	6
Number of Council Houses erected during the year	...	...	...	Nil
Number of families in receipt of financial assistance	...	...	...	453

**(D)—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****Milk and Dairies.**

Number of registered retailers	...	...	...	375
Number of registered producers, dairymen or wholesalers	...	...	...	47
Number of licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1937	...	...	...	12
Number of milk samples taken for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	12
Number unsatisfactory	...	...	...	—
Number of milk samples taken for biological test	...	...	...	7
Number unsatisfactory	...	...	...	—



**Food and Drugs.**

Number of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act	24
Number unsatisfactory ... ..	2

**Public Health Meat Regulations.**

Number of animals notified for slaughter ... ..	2507
Number of animals inspected ... ..	2507
Total weight of meat condemned ... 2 tons 1cwt. 1 qr. 9½ lbs.	

**Other Foods Condemned.**

Canned goods ... ..	4579 lbs.
Raw Foodstuffs ... ..	1722 lbs.
Packet Goods ... ..	47 lbs.
Boxed Goods ... ..	161 lbs.
Bottled Goods ... ..	39 lbs.

**Visits.**

Visits to slaughter houses ... ..	305
General food premises—shops and markets ... ..	303
Food preparing premises ... ..	8
Visits to cowsheds, dairies and milk shops and re-sampling	43

I am,

Yours obediently,

S. SKITT,

Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.  
Deputy Controller, Civil Defence.





